

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
Courthouse Square
Columbus
Colorado County
Texas

HABS No. TX-3400

HABS
TEX
45-COLUM,
2-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE

HABS NO. TX - 3400

Location: Courthouse Square (bounded by Walnut Avenue to the north, Travis Avenue to the east, Spring Avenue to the south, and Milam Avenue to the east), Columbus, Colorado County, Texas.

USGS Columbus, Texas Quadrangle. Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 14.738030.3288540.

HABS
TEX
45-COLUM,
2-

Present Owner: Colorado County

Present Use: Courthouse and county offices.

Significance: Built in 1890 by prominent Texas architect Eugene T. Heiner, the Colorado County Courthouse in Columbus, Texas is a production of the political atmosphere in Texas and the prosperity of the community in the late nineteenth century. The availability of state funding for each county to construct a courthouse encouraged a surge in courthouse architecture. Heiner's building in Columbus reflects the style of the period with its combination of French Second Empire, Renaissance Revival, and Italianate influences. The roof and tower of the courthouse were destroyed in a storm in 1909 and were replaced with Classical detailing and a center dome. At this time an interior stained glass dome was placed in the district courtroom. This courthouse is an excellent example of an evolution of stylistic trends and has represented the focal point for Colorado County civic life for over one hundred years.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1889-1891. The Colorado County Commissioners' Court hired Eugene T. Heiner as architect on June 26, 1889. Martin, Byrne, and Johnston were made contractors on October 1, 1889. Cornerstone was laid in a ceremony on July 7, 1890. The completed courthouse was accepted by the Commissioners' Court on April 4, 1891.
2. Architect: Eugene T. Heiner (1852-1901), of Houston, Texas, noted for his designs of Texas county courthouses and jails. Heiner began his Houston practice in 1877 after moving from Terre Haute, Indiana. He designed 14 county courthouses in Texas between 1881 and 1898 and 13 county jails between 1878 and 1895. Other notable works include the Leon and H. Blum Building (1879) and the Kauffman and Runge Building (1882), both in Galveston, and the Houston Cotton Exchange (1884) and Houston High School (1895) in Houston, Texas. Heiner often used a mix of Second Empire, Italianate, and Renaissance Revival styles throughout his career, with Romanesque Revival influences especially evident after the late 1880s.
3. Original and subsequent owners: Colorado County, 1889-present.
4. Original and subsequent occupants: This building has served as the seat of Colorado County government from its erection until the present day. Other governmental agencies have occupied small portions of the building at various times. Examples include Works

Progress Administration and other New Deal program offices during the Great Depression.

Deed records indicate that the Mexican Government, through empresario Stephen Austin, conveyed a league and labor of land (including the current courthouse square) to Elizabeth Tumlinson on August 13, 1824. The land was partitioned between Elizabeth Tumlinson's six children on December 19, 1833. Her eldest son, John J. Tumlinson, was awarded Lot 2 of the parcel. James Wright, as executor of John Tumlinson, sold the land to W.B. DeWees on September 6, 1834. DeWees and his business partner, J.W.E. Wallace, platted the townsite of Columbus on the site in 1837. DeWees and Wallace gave two squares (blocks) within Columbus to the Colorado County government on March 8, 1841. This conveyance included the current courthouse square. Colorado County has held title to the land to the present.

5. Builder, Contractor, Suppliers:

Builder: Martin, Byrne, and Johnston of Colorado City, Texas
Furniture: Clark and Courts of Galveston, Texas
Bell: Clinton E. Meneely Bell Co. of Troy, New York
Clock: Seth Thomas of Thomaston, Connecticut

6. Original plans and construction:

Original plans for the building have not been discovered, however, the original specifications for construction were found in the archives of neighboring Bastrop County and are now housed at the Colorado County Courthouse.

The Colorado County courthouse retains its original three-story height and modified Greek Cross plan with projecting central bays. However, the building was originally covered by a deck-on-hip roof with metal cresting around the edges of the deck. A tall tower rose from the center of the building, terminated by a sharply pitched deck-on-hip roof featuring four thin corner turrets flanking centered clock faces, each located within a gabled dormer. Small pediments were located above the roofline above each projecting central bay. Construction was of load-bearing brick with Belton limestone trimmings. The specifications make no mention of the current interior glass dome.

The existing 1882 iron fence around the site was incorporated into the Heiner design.

7. Alterations and additions:

There have been several major alterations to the courthouse building. The tower, roof, and parts of the west wall were destroyed during a storm resulting from a 1909 hurricane. Houston architect F. S. Glover was hired to design a replacement for the portion of the building that was destroyed. His design consisted of a round Classical Revival copper dome with the drum rising from a square base. A clear glass skylight was at the center of the dome. The roof was changed to a cross gabled form. The gable ends each have a prominent pediment atop the entire gable with dentils on the pediment and cornice. Larger, more detailed pediments were added above the projecting bays. The dome itself still contains the original four clocks and the original bell sits atop it, though at the time of the 1909 work, the clock was not repaired. Possibly during this construction period the interior glass dome was placed over the District Courtroom.

In 1939, the Works Progress Administration worked on the building, enlarging the basement and painting the exterior brick of the building a cream color. The paint altered

the original color contrast between the brick and stone elements of the structure. At this time the copper dome was also painted and the clock was repaired.

On November 9, 1942, the iron fence that encircled the courthouse grounds was removed and sold as scrap to help the war effort.

In 1951, the county hired the Houston office of architect Wyatt C. Hedrick's firm to expand the office space of the building by adding two one-story, brick, flat-roofed structures on the south facade flanking the main entrance. These structures did not match the brick color of the courthouse, nor did they match the detail used on the original building.

An acoustical tile dropped ceiling was added in the District Courtroom in 1960 in response to glass falling from the interior dome. Winds from Hurricane Carla caused considerable damage to the dome and roof in 1961, making more repairs necessary. Eventually, the clear skylight at the top of the dome was closed and the stained glass dome was dismantled and stored in the attic of the courthouse.

In 1975, an elevator was installed on the northeast side of the building serving the basement, ground, second and third floors.

In 1978, an extensive restoration of the courthouse was begun under the supervision of local designer Arthur J. Willrodt. The exterior of the courthouse was cleaned and repainted, the dropped ceiling was removed, the stained glass that had broken was replaced and the dome reinstalled. The dome skylight that had been closed was not reopened. The woodwork was cleaned, restored, and restained and revarnished. Original arble flooring in the entrance hallways was uncovered, and handicap entrance ramps were installed. Central air conditioning and heating units were installed. Electric fixtures were repaired and replaced and a fixture suspended from the interior stained glass dome was custom made.

B. Historical Context

1. Colorado County and its courthouse from 1836 to 1889

Colorado County was one of the original counties of the Republic of Texas, created in 1836, although with different boundaries than today. The county is located in southeast Texas along the coastal plains of the state. Most of the county lies within the Post Oak Savannah vegetative region, with the far north within the Blackland Prairie, and the far south inside the Gulf Prairie area. Soils in the county are good for farming, mainly consisting of sandy and sandy loams in the post oak belt, and loamy uplands in the blacklands. Very rich alluvial soils are found in the river bottoms. The altitude of the county varies from 151 to 450 feet, sloping downward toward the Gulf of Mexico to the southeast. The Colorado River, the largest river in Texas whose watershed is totally within the state, bisects the county from northwest to southeast. Cotton has historically been the predominant crop in Colorado County, but today rice and corn are the principal crops, with cotton, hay, and soybeans also cultivated. Beef and dairy cattle are also found in the county. Gas and oil fields are present, as are substantial sand and gravel pits. Businesses are mainly based on agribusiness and petrochemical services (1988-1989 Texas Almanac, 155). In 1990, 18,383 people lived within the county, a slight drop from 1980. There are three major cities in the county. Columbus, the county seat with 3,367 inhabitants, is located in the north central part of the county. Eagle Lake is the largest city with 3,551 people, and is the trade center for the eastern

part of the county. Weimar, in western Colorado County, has 2,052 persons (1992-1993 Texas Almanac, 207).

Early European explorers traveled through present-day Colorado County. The explorer Sieur de la Salle passed through Colorado County in 1687, crossing the Colorado River near the site of Columbus. Martin de Alarcón crossed through the area in 1718, and the Marquis de Rubí passed near today's Columbus in 1766 and 1767 (The Handbook of Texas, 378). In 1805, the Spanish governor Cordero laid out the Atascosito Road, which crossed the Colorado River at today's Columbus (Colorado County Chronicles, 32). The road became a major thoroughfare between the southeast Texas frontier and important settlements closer to interior Mexico. According to one map, an Indian village named Montezuma was located at the road's Colorado River crossing. Anglo settlement of the area began in the early 1820s, with Moses Austin's plans for colonization of the Brazos and Colorado River valleys. His son, Stephen F. Austin, took leadership of the colonizing efforts following his father's death in June 1821. The Mexican government gave permission for 300 families to settle in the colony, granting each settler land for grazing and farming purposes. Austin eventually issued 1,540 land grants between 1823 and 1831 (1988/89 Texas Almanac, 365). Each family received one *labor* (177 acres) for farming and one *sitio* or *legua* (4,428 acres) for stockraising (Fehrenbach, 140). The "Old Three Hundred" began their colonization efforts in August 1821, although formal title to the land was not obtained until 1823. The Colorado River crossing on the Atascosito Road was one of the first sites to be settled in Austin's Colony, in late 1821 (Colorado County Chronicles, 35). It was originally known as Beason's Ferry or Beason's Crossing. The community thrived, with 25 families living there by the early 1820s. Beason's Crossing grew as more Anglo settlers came to Texas. Cook's Tavern at the crossing became an important meeting place for the local colonists. A gristmill was also built at the site. Stephen F. Austin originally platted a townsite along the Colorado River near Columbus for his colony's capital, but he chose to settle in a more secure location at San Felipe on the Brazos (Colorado County Chronicles, 40).

Self-government was established in the region in November 1822, when the settlers along the Colorado River elected an alcalde (mayor) and militia commanders. By 1835, enough people had moved into the Colorado River valley that the colonists petitioned for a new municipality, the basic unit of local government in Mexican Texas. The Municipality of Colorado was organized in January 1836, by the Provisional Government of Texas. Following the declaration of Texas Independence and the fall of the Alamo in March 1836, the Republic of Texas Army retreated eastward through the colony, camping at Beason's Ferry for six days. The settlement there was burned on March 26, 1836, to prevent its capture and use by the Mexican Army (The Handbook of Texas, 379). Settlers returned following the Texian victory at San Jacinto, arriving on May 10th. Colorado County was an original county of the Republic of Texas. Formal organization of the county took place in February 1837.

William B. DeWees, one of the "Old Three Hundred", and J.W.E. Wallace platted the present town of Columbus on the west bank of the Colorado River and sold lots in 1837. Tradition holds that the Beason's Ferry community, on the east bank of the river, had been known as Columbus as early as 1835. A traveler visiting Columbus in the summer of 1837 found only "two public houses, two small stores, and half-dozen shanties" (Colorado County Chronicles, 52; from Muir's *Texas in 1837*). Bollaert reported that Columbus in 1843 still relied on barter as a means of trade (Colorado County Chronicles, 55; from Bollaert's *William Bollaert's Texas*). Ferdinand Roemer, on his visit, found eighteen or twenty frame houses, three stores, two taverns, and a smithy in the town (Colorado County Chronicles, 57; from Roemer's *Texas*). In the

early 1840s, an observer noted about 30 houses in the town (Von Wrede, 94). He went on to say that the area, "with alternating forests and prairies, had likewise attracted many settlers in the last few years and had already rewarded perseverance and diligence in a considerable degree" (Von Wrede, 112).

Colorado County grew rapidly in the 1850s. This growth was due in large part to better transportation access between the Gulf coast and the inland county. From the days of the Republic until the Civil War, riverboat transportation was influential in the development of Columbus. Cotton and other crops from area farms were traded for goods from outside the state. Keelboats and flatboats were used for freight traffic until the arrival of the first steamboat in 1845 (Colorado County Chronicles, 66). Columbus was an important shipping point for area plantations, as it was reachable by steamboat in all seasons. Riverboat traffic peaked in the 1850s, but quickly fell off with the start of the Civil War. Stage lines were also important to Colorado County transportation. A stage line began operation between Houston and Colorado County in 1839. This line was extended westward by February 1847, when a mail route was established from Houston to San Antonio (Colorado County Chronicles, 68). Railroads came to Colorado County in November 1859, when the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos, and Colorado Railroad (BBB&C) reached Eagle Lake in the eastern part of the county. The BBB&C led from Harrisburg, near present Houston, westward through the rich cotton regions of ante-bellum Texas. The railroad then extended northwestward to reach the little community of Alleyton in 1860, causing a boom there.

Towns such as Eagle Lake, Oakland, and Alleyton were founded in the late 1850s, as the county's population boomed (Colorado County Chronicles, 92-94). The population jumped from 2,257 in 1850 to 7,885 in 1860, a growth of over 300 percent (1978-1979 Texas Almanac, 185). Cotton plantations as well as other farming enterprises prospered during this period, making the county an attractive place to settle. Most settlers during this period were old-stock Anglo-Americans; however, some German immigration had occurred before 1860 in parts of Colorado County, notably around the Frelsburg area (Colorado County Courthouse Historic Structure Report, 7).

The county voted for secession from the Union in 1861. Several districts were markedly against the measure, probably due to the pro-Union sentiments of German immigrants. Several units of Confederate soldiers came from Colorado County. The Civil War caused a great deal of hardship, as most white men left to serve in the army. The County was forced to institute a welfare system to help needy families (Colorado County Chronicles, 99-100). The town of Alleyton, on the east bank of the Colorado River, became a bustling trade center during the war years. It was located at the western terminus of the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos, and Colorado Railroad. Cotton from Texas plantations was shipped to Alleyton and then loaded onto wagons bound for Brownsville. The cotton was traded in Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico, for arms and ammunition. Alleyton was described in 1863 as a place "composed principally of Mexican teamsters, their carts, teams, dogs and wives, cotton buyers, cotton sellers, merchants, pedlars, speculators, foreigners, and soldiers" (Colorado County Chronicles, 121).

Following the Confederate surrender, Union soldiers arrived in Columbus on June 24, 1865, to take control of the county and administer oaths of loyalty (Colorado County Chronicles, 128). Reconstruction hurt Colorado County's economy badly, as the plantation system collapsed. Planters, with much of their wealth based on slave ownership, lost nearly all their fortunes and status after the war. Cotton plantations were also hurt by army worm infestation and a heavy Federal cotton tax. Many fields lay dormant due to labor shortages as freedmen tried to leave the plantations. Little

documentation of slavery in Colorado County prior to the Civil War could be found. One solution to the labor problem was to attract immigrants. Czechs and Germans were encouraged to settle in Colorado County, and a large wave of migration took place during the Reconstruction years (The Handbook of Texas, 378-379). Radical Reconstruction led to great political turmoil in the area as the military administration appointed county officials. Lawlessness was a problem in the county, even under military rule. Murders, lynchings, and arsons seem to have been numerous during these years. This unrest and violence continued throughout the last quarter of the nineteenth century, imperiling the county's future prosperity. The combination of unpopular Reconstruction appointees, economic chaos, and a changing social order led to a great deal of disorder. Disease brought more hardship to Colorado County, with yellow fever epidemics in 1867 and 1873. During the 1873 epidemic, Columbus was nearly deserted, as people fled to the country, terrified by the disease. Many citizens, including the mayor, succumbed to yellow fever in 1873.

One hopeful sign of future prosperity came in 1867, when the railroad line reached Columbus. The BBB&C Railroad originally wanted to bypass Columbus and stretch its line northwest to Austin. City leaders, however, organized a company to build a tap line linking Columbus to the main line across the Colorado River. Work started in 1860, but the bridge was not completed until 1867. Railroad officials were so impressed that they changed their line's alignment to pass through Columbus and eventually extend to San Antonio. With the new rail bridge, Alleyton nearly vanished, while Columbus boomed. A newspaper remarked that "new buildings are going up and the spirits of the merchants are high. Plenty of good schools, churches, and society" (Colorado County Chronicles, 144). Columbus became even more important as a trade hub in 1869, after the railroad completed a bridge over the Brazos River at the town of Richmond, southeast of Columbus. Colorado County then became directly linked by rail to Houston. Cotton could easily be shipped from the river valleys to the port at Galveston.

Military rule ended in 1870 and Texas was readmitted to the Union. Radical Republicans kept control of state government, under Governor E. J. Davis. Davis was extremely unpopular, as many people railed against heavy taxation, Radical political appointees, and the prominent role of blacks in support of the Republicans. Reconstruction fully ended in 1874, when Davis was defeated in his bid for re-election (Colorado County Chronicles, 153-155).

Following Reconstruction, Colorado County boomed, as farmland was again cultivated and as the railroad brought new trade opportunities. The county's population doubled during the 1870s, from 8,326 to 16,673 inhabitants. This growth continued for several decades with 19,512 people in 1890 and 22,203 persons in 1900. The 1900 figure marked the highest population for Colorado County, as the population leveled off and slightly fell in the 20th century (1978-1979 Texas Almanac, 185). An 1878 article lists the population of Columbus at 4,500, although this figure may be inflated (Colorado County Chronicles, 167).

Railroads multiplied during these years. A roundhouse and switches were built in Columbus and later moved to Glidden to the west. In 1880, a Columbus-La Grange railroad line was opened by the Southern Pacific Railroad. In the late 1880s, the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railroad laid track through the southern part of the county (Colorado County Chronicles, 168). As the railroads moved into the county, towns such as Weimar and Glidden were started along the route, while communities like Oakland and Alleyton were bypassed. Non-rail transportation also improved after Reconstruction. Until 1875, ferries had been used for non-rail traffic across the

Colorado River. A toll bridge north of the courthouse at Columbus was completed in 1875, and an east bridge was built in 1886. Ferries were still used in times of flood. The bridges improved farm-to-market transportation considerably. Telephone service was also introduced in the county during the 1880s.

Many towns in southern Colorado County were formed in the late 1800s, such as Nada, Altair (1890), and Rock Island (1896). Upper Midwesterners, particularly those from Illinois, settled in that part of the county after the Civil War, but many returned north over the succeeding years (Colorado County Chronicles, 176). Rice was first planted near Eagle Lake in 1886, and it became a major crop in that area.

It was against this backdrop of explosive growth and optimism for the future that the Commissioners' Court decided to build a new courthouse and jail in 1889. The land upon which the present courthouse is located was originally deeded from the Mexican Government to Elizabeth Tumlinson on August 13, 1824. Stephen F. Austin and the Baron de Bastrop acted as agents for the government for this conveyance (Colorado County Deed Records, 52:482). Mrs. Tumlinson received the one league and one labor of land on behalf of her husband, who had been killed by Indians before his land grant could be processed (Stein, 73). Her son, John J. Tumlinson, contested her right to the land, as his right of heirship from his father. A local committee decided to divide the land among Elizabeth Tumlinson's six children upon her death, based on a random drawing. John Tumlinson received Lot 2 of the land, on which Columbus is now located, on December 19, 1833 (Colorado County Deed Records, J:626). James Wright, the executor of John Tumlinson, sold half of Lot 2 to W.B. DeWees on September 6, 1834 (Colorado County Bonds and Deeds Transcribed, A:36). In 1837, DeWees and J.W.E. Wallace developed the townsite of Columbus on the land. On March 8, 1841, they donated two squares of land to Colorado County. Each tract was 120 square varas. One of these squares, bounded by Walnut, Travis, Spring, and Milam Streets, was used as the courthouse square (Colorado County Deed Records, C:43). Willard Robinson offers Columbus as an example of how land was often donated for public use in early Texas communities. Such donations were thought to increase the desirability of a town. In the case of Colorado County, the county sold the other donated land to finance the construction of a courthouse and jail (Robinson, Texas Public Buildings, 18).

The first District Court session of Colorado County was held in April 1837. Legend holds that Judge Robert "Three-Legged Willie" Williamson held court under one of the many oak trees close to the present courthouse. It is unknown exactly which tree would have been used, but many favor the "Court Oak" just east of the courthouse (Colorado County Courthouse Historic Structure Report, 5). Other local scholars believe court was held inside a building, perhaps a schoolhouse, along the river (Colorado County's Courthouses, 2). Later sessions of the court were held in various rented buildings. In 1838, lumber supposedly was cut in Bastrop for a courthouse and floated down the Colorado River for capture at Columbus. Strong currents, however, caused the barrier to fail and the lumber was lost (Colorado County Courthouse Historic Structure Report, 6). Plans for a permanent courthouse were made again beginning in October 1840, but the Commissioners' Court nullified the construction contract in April 1842, with rented buildings or private houses still used for court sessions. On January 30, 1847, N.H. Fisher was chosen to build a small, two-story courthouse for \$950. Original plans called for a courtroom and clerk's room downstairs, and a clerk's room and two jury rooms upstairs. Court records indicate that the building was built somewhat differently, with both clerk's rooms on the first floor and the courtroom probably on the second floor. The building's courtroom was also used as a school and for public preaching (Colorado County's Courthouses, 3).

The growth of the 1840s and 1850s caused commissioners to begin discussing courthouse modifications or replacement as early as 1852. On May 16, 1853, the commissioners chose A. Frazer to construct a courthouse and jail according to plans drawn up by R.P. Boyce. Frazer died soon after construction began, with the county paying his estate \$1800 for work completed in November 1853. The total price for the courthouse eventually totaled \$10,365 (Colorado County's Courthouses, 3). On April 10, 1854, the commissioners' court was forced to rent a house for courtroom and office space. Apparently, construction stopped for a considerable time, because G. T. Jamison was recommended as the new contractor in February 1855. In October 1855, the old courthouse was sold, although the commissioners believed the new courthouse had not been finished properly. Jamison was not given his final payment until March 1857, with some commissioners still objecting to his work. In November 1857, the court appointed a committee to select a site for a new jail and to determine work necessary to complete the courthouse. The pace was slow on this project as well, for the court appropriated \$1,000 for the plastering and finishing of the courthouse in February 1859 (Colorado County's Courthouses, 3-4). Such items as interior furnishings and window curtains were purchased in May and August 1859, signifying the occupancy of the new courthouse (Colorado County Court House Historic Structure Report, 24). The building was painted as early as 1860, with many accounts of routine repairs throughout its life.

A wooden fence was placed around the courthouse square in 1860 and was apparently replaced in 1870 (Colorado County's Courthouses, 5). However, an iron fence was erected in 1882 by E.T. Barnum in an effort to better prevent livestock from entering the courthouse grounds. Although the work was initially not accepted by the court, the fence remained. The first water well on the square was also drilled in 1860, to be used by anyone needing the water. Four gazebos also existed on the grounds. According to local citizen Myrah Jane Draper, the gazebos were water wells (Draper Interview 28 May 1993). It is not known when these gazebos were built, but historic photographs indicate that they were present before the 1909 renovation. At one point a county commissioner, R. R. Hadner, had one of the gazebos moved to his yard. When the family sold the property, they returned the gazebo to the county with a plaque on it memorializing Hadner. The present gazebo is the last one remaining. Other courthouse grounds buildings included an outhouse which was installed in 1871 (Colorado County's Courthouses, 4-5).

By the late 1880s, the explosive growth of the county, no doubt, had caused overcrowding in the courthouse, then over thirty years old. Continued expansion of the county seemed inevitable, reflected in optimistic newspaper accounts of the county, its natural resources, and its future prosperity (Colorado Citizen, October 22, 1889).

2. Colorado County Courthouse between 1881 and 1911:

In 1881, the Texas legislature passed an Act permitting each county to finance the construction of courthouses through the sale of bonds. This Act was amended in 1884 to also include the financing of jails through the sale of bonds (Robinson, The People's Architecture, 86). Thus, numerous new courthouses, including the Colorado County Courthouse, were built in the ensuing two decades. As noted in the Commissioner's Court Minutes in 1885, the court decided to levy a tax of ten cents on each \$100 worth of property in the county in order to finance both a new courthouse and a new jail in Columbus. In May 1889, the residents of Columbus petitioned the county for a new courthouse (Colorado County's Courthouse, 5). On June 26, 1889, the courthouse committee employed Eugene T. Heiner of Houston as architect.

Eugene T. Heiner, born in New York in 1852, was the first established professional architect in Houston by the late nineteenth century. He had begun his training at the age of thirteen in Chicago, Illinois. He then moved to Terre Haute, Indiana where he practiced architecture until moving to Texas in 1876 (Robinson, The People's Architecture, 61). His first major commission in Texas was the Galveston County Jail, for which he won in a design competition in 1878 (Robinson, The People's Architecture, 59). After this work, Heiner designed many jails all over the state of Texas, including the Tarrant County Jail, the Harris County Jail, and the Victoria County Jail. In 1881, Heiner won the competition to expand and reface the Galveston County Courthouse built in 1875 by Nicholas Clayton (Robinson, The People's Architecture, 59). Heiner continued to build courthouses throughout the nineteenth century. He also designed many commercial and residential buildings including the Houston Cotton Exchange and numerous homes for prominent Houstonites. Heiner was the founding member of the Texas State Association of Architects in 1886.

Courthouses designed by Heiner in the 1880s were very similar in style. When comparing the Falls County Courthouse in Marlin, built 1886-88, the Austin County Courthouse in Bellville, built 1888, and the Walker County courthouse in Huntsville, built 1888, one notices that they share many similar features. Heiner mixes elements of Italian Renaissance and French Second Empire to create an elegant three-story structure with a tall mansard roof and central tower rising up from the middle. It is interesting to note that before deciding on plans for their courthouse, the courthouse committee from Columbus toured the Falls County Courthouse (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 3:371-5).

The court decided to build the jail and the courthouse at the same time. Four different structures were proposed: a courthouse of all stone, one of stone with brick backing and brick inside walls, one of all brick, and one of brick with stone trimmings. The combination of brick and stone was the plan chosen. The choice of materials reflects a regional character since in the Gulf Coast Plains, where Columbus is located, stone is scarce, but clay is abundant and therefore many buildings are of brick (Robinson, Texas Public Buildings, 59). On August 23, 1889, an advertisement for bids on the two buildings appeared in the local Columbus paper, The Colorado Citizen, and in the Galveston News (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 4:29). The bid was awarded to the firm of Martin, Byrne, and Johnston of Colorado City, Texas, to "erect said buildings with brick and Belton stone trimmings and complete same work except the iron work on the jail" for a cost of \$54,596 (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 4:33).

Work began on the foundations in 1889. Further excavations were necessary in 1890 in order to elevate the building higher above the water table (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 4:121). There is evidence of a delay in construction after the foundations were laid. An article in the Colorado Citizen remarks that the completion of the building would save the county money since they must pay rent for other buildings in the meantime (Colorado Citizen, April 10, 1890, 3). The contractors decided to build a brick plant in the area instead of shipping brick in from elsewhere, following a petition from the citizens of Columbus for such an arrangement. This was beneficial both to the town and the contractors. According to another article in the Colorado Citizen, "Heretofore it has been difficult to procure brick for building purposes in this city, which has caused the erection of buildings of lumber which would otherwise have been of a more substantial character" (Colorado Citizen, April 17, 1890, 3). Thus, the area would have easier access to building materials and the contractors would have a market for their brick. It was believed that locally produced

bricks would be of a better quality than the "ordinary" bricks that were called for in the contract (Colorado Citizen April 17). At the same time, a debate started as to whether or not the courthouse should include a town clock. The local newspaper suggested that the town buy a clock, but "The Citizen's suggestion that citizens of Columbus buy a town clock for the courthouse seems to have fallen upon the people like a wet blanket. We ought to have the clock, though, as its hours would regulate everything, nearly, and prevent loss of time" (Colorado Citizen, April 10, 1890, 3). The Hallettsville Herald even comments on the issue saying that if Columbus does not install a clock during the construction of their courthouse, they will never have one, and refers back to the Lavaca County Courthouse at Hallettsville and its lack of a timepiece (Colorado Citizen, May 1, 1890, 3). A Seth Thomas timepiece was purchased at a cost of \$545 and installed in the tower by B. Heyer and Company of Columbus.

On June 7, 1890, the cornerstone-laying ceremony was held and three thousand people attended it. The stone is of Burnet granite and was laid by the Masonic Lodge. The inscription on it reads:

Colorado County Courthouse
Erected 1890
Chas. Riley, County Judge
Eugene T. Heiner, Architect
Martin, Byrne and Johnston, Contractors

Unfortunately, the ceremony was not without division among the people of Columbus. An old feud between two of the city's prominent families, the Staffords and the Townsends, erupted again that day and resulted with the shooting of the eldest Stafford and his brother by the Hope brothers, who were members of the Townsend family. With that, the attention of the town was focused on the murders and the laying of the cornerstone was associated with this loss. (Colorado County Chronicles, 192-197). On April 4, 1891, Heiner officially certified the completion of the courthouse and the jail. At this time, the court contracted Clark and Courts of Galveston to furnish the courthouse (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 4:237-40). The contractors, Martin, Byrne and Johnston, went on to construct the neighboring Fayette County Courthouse in La Grange.

A development during the last two decades of the 1800s was that of community pride. Attention was focused on public beautification that would serve the residents of the town as well as attract outside visitors and potential residents. "This trait was manifested in many county seats where courthouses were surrounded with ornamental iron fences and were landscaped with trees, walls, and grass" (Robinson, Texas Public Buildings, 107). After the courthouse was built, Columbus showed a similar interest in the courthouse surroundings. With the new centerpiece of the town, the citizens were concerned with its upkeep and image:

"The courthouse gates should be made secure, so that stock cannot enter the enclosure. When this is done, nice shrubbery could be planted, the walls laid off, and a few seats placed so our citizens can enjoy an hour's time of evenings in the delightful shade afforded. The courthouse is a handsome building and deserves handsome surroundings" (Colorado Citizen April 30, 1891, 3).

This concern with the grounds continued throughout the years and is still evident, with the existing landscaping and gazebo.

For the next few decades the courthouse remained unchanged. The roof was repaired and repainted in 1897, but there were no major structural alterations (Colorado Citizen, November 16, 1897, 3). Then on July 21, 1909, a hurricane hit Galveston and moved inland, traveling through Colorado County. The remarkably strong winds damaged buildings and property all across the county. The Colorado Citizen reports that by seven o'clock that evening the winds were so strong that the:

"Dome of the courthouse was blown off and the roof and west wall considerably damaged. The bell that tolled the hours of time was carried to the west and completely buried in the ground near the well. The cornice and slate was blown loose from the roof in several places and the rain nearly all night poured its volume into the wrecked courthouse, completely saturating almost every room, causing the plastering to fall from the walls. Thursday morning several small sections of the west wall fell showing it to be dangerous for sightseers to venture too near" (Colorado Citizen, July 23, 1909).

The cost of the repairs was estimated to be no less than ten thousand dollars, probably closer to fifteen thousand dollars.

One of the most significant factors in the repair of the courthouse was the economic condition of the county. A brief article appears on the front page of the Colorado Citizen saying that a few commissioners do not want to replace the tower on the courthouse so as to save the expense that complete repairs would incur. The paper, however, urges the commissioners to replace the tower saying that the courthouse is the "county's chief building" and to not rebuild as it was prior to the storm, as that would be a "step backwards" (Colorado Citizen, July 30, 1909, 3). The same day, the Weimar Mercury, a neighboring town's paper, reported on the damage to the courthouse and stressed that the people were too poor for additional taxation, plus they had all suffered from the storm. The paper's final comment was "Repair, but be as economical as possible about it" (Weimar Mercury, July 30, 1909, 3). The next day, another neighboring town reported that the commissioners were considering repairing the courthouse with a very low dome that would be built cheaply. Again the term "backward step" was applied to the decision not to fully restore the building. The paper did point out that the county was lacking in funds to repair the building. Everyone's property had been assessed as much as possible already and no lower rate of taxation had occurred, thus it was necessary to economize in the reconstruction (Eagle Lake Headlight, July 31, 1909, 3).

The court employed F. S. Glover, a Houston architect, to examine the wreckage and propose plans to repair the structure. Glover was a native Texan who had worked in California and other states. He moved back to Texas and started his practice there in 1892. He had to his credit the Tyler County Courthouse, the Grimes County Courthouse, and many other business and residential buildings. His plans for the Colorado County Courthouse included a "copper sheathed dome with improved lighting and ventilation," and an oval dome to improve acoustics in the District Courtroom. It was determined that the original Seth Thomas clock was in good enough condition to be reinstalled, though Glover also suggested using plate-glass translucent

dials for the clock so that the clock could be seen when lighted at night. Due to the economic situation, the county planned to hold a special election to decide if bonds would be issued to fund repairs (Eagle Lake Headlight, August 7, 1909, 3). The plans were accepted and N. C. Jensen of Houston was chosen as the contractor for the work (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes 9:97). In the November 12, 1909, issue of the Colorado Citizen, Jensen states that the courthouse will not be finished before March 1910. The length of the repair work led to a shortened session of District Court in January. No contested trials were to be heard, and only a week was allotted for the uncontested cases (Colorado Citizen, January 21, 1910, 3). By May 20, 1910, the repair work was behind schedule and being rushed. Electric lights were placed so that workers could plaster in both day and night shifts so as to get the work done by June 24th (Colorado Citizen, May 10, 1910, 3). By June, C. C. Mertz was employed to clean and revarnish all of the woodwork in the courthouse, except for the District courtroom. About September 1, 1910, the Necco and Eisemann Company of Houston completed a tile roof on the courthouse (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 9:198). On September 16, 1910, the Colorado Citizen reports that

"The courthouse is now practically completed; there remaining only a few more touches of paint and varnish, which completes one of the finest jobs of architecture and artistic painting and coloring ever seen in this section of the state. The District courtroom is a scene of beauty and so conveniently arranged that it seems as if no improvement could be suggested."

Yet, despite all of the praise for the work done by Glover, there is no mention in any local newspaper or in the commissioner's court minutes of the stained glass dome in the District Courtroom. It is the speculation of current County Judge H. O. Strunk, that the "court didn't want the people to be aware of that additional cost in... the installing... so it was not ever made a record of" (H.O. Strunk Interview, 2 June 1993). Judge Strunk suggests that it "may be some determination of the architect, that 'this is what I would like to see happen,' and the Commissioner's Court was in agreement, the architect may have said what type of ceiling treatment he wanted, and the Commissioner's Court...said...'tell us what the overall cost is and we'll get it done.'" Meanwhile, they simply avoided recording it, since everyone was so concerned with economizing on the construction.

Glover's decision to build a dome may also have been influenced by the style of the time besides simply economic constraints. The 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago, Illinois introduced a Classic Style of architecture that rapidly became popular for public buildings. This Classical Revival often employed domes, columns, and porticos. Robinson writes that "the dome, a very static stable geometric shape, along with its rotunda became an emblem of government for many counties. Echoing state and national capitols, they unmistakably reflected power and pride and expressed the dignity of authority the public admired" (Robinson, The People's Architecture, 216). The 1909 rebuilding of the courthouse determined the building's final form aside from additions and interior changes.

3. Colorado County Courthouse from 1912 to the present:

It was announced in the local newspaper in December 1912, of plans to lay Cook's "A" grade Cook Carpet, an imported pressed cork carpet of high quality, in the courthouse (Colorado County Citizen, December 20, 1912, 3). In January 1913, it was decided by County Judge Mansfield and the County Commissioners that this carpet would be put down in the district court room, the two halls leading to it, the stairs, and the first floor hallway (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 9:324).

At some time during this period, thin wires were stretched across the district courtroom. "They had stretched fine piano wires"... "they went from north to south and east to west and in the center they were intertwined. And that was for acoustical purposes. They didn't have any loudspeakers or anything at that time" (Raymond Metzke Interview, 3 June 1993). There is no official documentation as to when the wires were put up or taken down, but other citizens have said they could recall the wires having been there. Arthur Evans has stated that he does "remember way back when [he] was a kid they had a lot of wires stretched across that had a lot of tension." He says that when he asked about them, he was told that "it's something about the sound or acoustics" (Arthur Evans Interview, 4 June 1993).

On September 26, 1924, a committee appointed by the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce visited Columbus to officially recognize the importance of the Court Oak in the history of Colorado County (Shaw, 39).

A number of the old walnut trees which had grown up around the courthouse square had died by 1925. To replace these, the county purchased ten pecan trees from the Pearfield Nursery (Colorado Citizen, Feb. 5, 1925, 3). These trees were planted along the hedge which ringed the courthouse at the time. They were considered to be far enough away from the ornamental trees that no one should object to their being planted. Eight of these pecan trees remain today. Magnolia trees had been planted around the square in 1905 and 1907. More magnolia trees were planted after 1919. Crepe myrtles were planted on the west side of the square in November 1919 (Colorado County's Courthouses, 5).

In 1933, bids were opened to have gas piped into the courthouse and jail. Tom Kollman had the lowest bid and therefore was awarded the contract for the courthouse (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 12:371).

In 1934, it was approved by the commissioners that the walls of the courthouse be calcimined and that the woodwork be sandpapered and varnished (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 12:388).

In 1936, The State of Texas honored the local legend of "Three Legged Willie" by placing a plaque near the Columbus oak under which he held the first district court in the county. The inscription on the plaque reads: "Beneath this tree the First Court of the Third Judicial District of the Republic of Texas was held April 1837 by Judge Robert M. Williamson (Three Legged Willie)."

A nine feet tall Historic Marker was erected in the courthouse square in 1937, in order to honor the importance of Colorado County in the history of the state of Texas. The inscription on the bronze plaque reads as follows:

"Colorado County
City of Columbus
Site of the Projected Capitol
of
Stephen F. Austin's Colony 1823
First Settlement at this point
Shown on Stephen F. Austin's map
of 1835 as Montezuma
The Municipality of Colorado was created by the
Provisional Governor of Texas, January 11, 1836 and
the town of Columbus ordered laid out as the seat of government.

"On March 17, 1836 the County of Colorado was
created; in 1837 it was organized. Columbus, the County
Seat was incorporated June 5, 1837.

As a Railroad Terminal from 1836-1837.

In Memory of

The Pioneer families of Burnham, Gilleland, Cummins,
Fischer, Dewees, Kuykendahl and Tumlinson. J.W.E.
Wallace and his company who defended Gonzales October 2, 1835,
William D. Lacy, William Menefee, Signers of the
Texas Declaration of Independence, Leander Beason, John
P. Borden, David Cole, Stephen T. Foley, George W.
Gardener, Joseph Gardener, Basil G. Ijams, Dr. James D. Jennings,
Alfred Kelso, Amos D. Kenjon, Daniel Miller,
James Nelson, Mitchell Putnam, Dempsey Pace, William
Pace, Washington H. Secrest, Maxwell Steel, Robert Stephenson, Spencer
B. Townsend, William Waters, Leroy Wilkinson.

"San Jacinto Veterans who lived in this county
prior to or after the Texas Revolution: Col. John C.
Upton, Major John S. Shropshire, Major J.S. West,
Captain P. J. Oakes, Captain James D. Toberdeau,
Captain R. V. Cook, Confederate Officers.

"The following citizens of distinction have
resided in Colorado County:

James Rivers, jurist, Dr. Lawrence Washington, Gail
Borden, Mathew Stanley Quay, senator for Pa., Charles
Nagel, cabinet member under Taft, Wells Thompson, Lieut.
Governor of Texas, George McCormick, State
Attorney-General and co-writer of the present State Constitution, George
Smith, member of the Supreme Court
of Texas. Erected by the State of Texas 1936 (Colorado
County Courthouse Historic Structure Report, pp. 42-44).

As part of F.D. Roosevelt's New Deal Program during the Depression after the Stock
Market Crash of 1929, the Works Progress Administration (WPA) was created in 1935
to ease the problem of high unemployment in the U.S. One-fifth of the U.S. workforce
was employed by the WPA at some time or other in the 1930s. At its peak in 1938,
more than three million people were working on WPA projects (McKay, 920). The
projects which were undertaken were civic in nature and involved public works and
buildings. In 1939, the WPA was employed in Colorado County to excavate a
basement for the courthouse. The additional room was to provide office space for the
county agents as well as other departments. After construction, it was announced in the
newspaper that:

"not only has the basement provided added space which has long been needed in the courthouse, but it has made the whole structure of this building stronger, according to B.A. Lindsey, WPA Engineer. These offices while not tops for lighting and ventilation facilities, are comfortably cool and are easily reached by two flights of short steps, one on each the east and west entrances. Lighting and ventilation will be corrected, it is understood. Two modern rest rooms also occupy the underground floor" (Colorado County Courthouse History: Structural Report, 44).

The WPA also painted the building at this time. In order to seal the bricks against moisture, thereby extending the life of the building, a special cement mixture was used when the cream colored paint was applied to the exterior. The window frames were painted green and the dome cornices white. The dome was given a coat of aluminum paint in order to make it appear silver. Another improvement during the year was to repair the clock, bringing it back into working order.

In 1942, Colorado County made a contribution to the war effort by selling for scrap metal the fence which had enclosed the courthouse square for more than fifty years (Colorado County Courthouse Historic Structure Report, 25-26). This was not supported by all of the county residents. A local citizen and member of the Historical Commission, Laura Ann Rau, can "remember hearing people fussin' about it" as a child growing up in Columbus (Laura Ann Rau Interview, 10 June 1993).

As the offices of the county clerk and tax assessor-collector had become quite cramped, the County Commissioners voted in 1950 to remodel and build an addition to the courthouse. On July 12, 1951, they named Wyatt C. Hedrick of Houston as architect to deal with the remodeling and the addition (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 16:215-217). Hedrick was a prominent architect in Texas and had offices in Dallas and Fort Worth as well as Houston. Hedrick's work follows the various styles popular throughout the decades, including "Zig-Zag Moderne [1931]...;transitional uncertainty [1949]...and curtain-wall modern [1958]" (Fox). It was during his "transition" period that the box-like additions were constructed. By July 12, 1951, the court had hired Bill Barta of Weimar as contractor for the remodeling with a contract in the amount of \$99,085.00 being offered (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 16:371-377). The addition consisted of the construction of two box-like appendages, one on the southeast corner and one at the southwest corner.

Construction continued until 1953 and other changes and improvements were made to the building during this time. The court approved the use of rubber tile in the County Courtroom and District Courtroom on October 8, 1951 (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 16:442). On November 13, 1951, Western Engineering Corporation was made subcontractor to dampproof, caulk, sandblast, paint, and waterproof the exterior. They guaranteed their work for three years (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 16:450). Only a small test area was sandblasted, owing to the soft mortar between the bricks. Plans to return the exterior brick to its original color were then shelved (John Hancher Interview, 1 June 1993).

In May of 1953, the court employed Carl Stautz, AIA, of Austin, Texas, as architect for the acoustical and electrical work to be done in the District Courtroom (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 17:173-174). The acoustical work was contracted to S.W. Nichols and the sound and lighting construction to Stancik Electric

Co. (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 17:232-236). Several other changes were made during this phase of construction, including the installation of an acoustical tile ceiling in the County Court Room, repointing of some old stone, and the relocation of a water line (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 17:75-77).

On January 11, 1954, the court allowed Central Power and Light to install mercury vapor lights on the courthouse lawn (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 17:327).

On December 14, 1954, the court, with Carl Stautz listed as architect, contracted with W.K. Jennings of Austin, to rewire the courthouse (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 17:517-518). Stautz at this time prescribed caulking and waterproofing on the third floor to prevent water seepage (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 17:569). In addition to rewiring the building, Jennings installed an outdoor outlet on the west side of the courthouse and five steel window guards for the windows on the County Clerk's vault (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 17:584). The work was accepted by the court on July 11, 1955 (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 18:1).

It was not until an article in the Weimar Mercury appeared on April 1, 1960, that any more changes or improvements are recorded. The article states that the dome in the ceiling of the district courtroom "will be ceiled off in the near future, thus settling a matter that has been discussed at least the past quarter of a century. Commissioners Court Friday authorized Columbus contractor A.N. Evans, Jr. to install an acoustical ceiling in the district courtroom which will close off the dome" (Weimar Mercury, April 1, 1960, 1). This project was being undertaken as "some pieces of the glass have fallen from the dome into the courtroom recently and there has been fear that somebody might be injured. Also closing the dome is expected to improve the acoustics of the courtroom" (Weimar Mercury, April 1, 1960). According to John Hancher, who was practicing law at the time, "there was some disappointment, but the folks that were familiar with the situation and that were trying cases in the courtroom or sitting on the jury or sitting in the audience realized the [danger]" (John Hancher Interview 1 June 1993). Arthur Evans, who was hired to install the acoustic tiles, says that he and his crew "took all of the leaded glass and we carefully stacked in the wing of the attic, on the north wing." He and his crew left the frames together, they "didn't take any individual pieces of glass out" (Arthur Evans Interview, 4 June 1993).

In September 1965, the commissioners began a series of small repairs and improvements (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 20:246). Such things as window repair, waterproofing and painting were completed. The district courtroom windows were painted to make them obscure and many office doors had their two upper wood panes removed and replaced with 1/4" plate glass (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 20:265).

On November 8, 1965, the Commissioners' Court accepted a bid for lighting the courthouse grounds. Fred L. Franta was awarded the contract to install four flood lights with lamps which were to be controlled by a time clock (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 20:284). Another interesting event in 1965 took place during a heated trial over public school consolidation at which Texas Rangers were present to ensure order. Judge Truman Roberts, seated on the bench of the Court of Appeals in Austin, was sent down to hear the case. "There was no air conditioning, the windows were wide open, and a pigeon got into the courtroom and went to flying around." Judge Roberts was not pleased when he noticed people watching the pigeon rather than himself. After a time he ordered court adjourned and told the sheriff to get

the pigeon out by one o'clock. The sheriff was baffled about how to get the pigeon down. The district clerk suggested that he run across the street and get a BB gun to shoot down the pigeon since a pistol would damage the courtroom too much. At this time the pigeon landed upon one of the lion's heads in the dome. Then the district clerk, "Charlie Allen takes aim and shoots the lion's ear off" (Lester Cranek Interview, 4 June 1993).

In February 1971, the grand jury recommended that the clocks in the courthouse be repaired and subsequently maintained in working condition (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 22:35).

In 1975 Judge Lester Cranek had an elevator put in, as a former judge and lawyer had developed multiple sclerosis and there was "no way he could make it up to the second floor, to the district court room, plus the fact that senior citizens could not make those stairways up there" (Lester Cranek Interview, 4 June 1993). As the building was registered with the Texas Historical Commission, it was necessary to receive their permission before any work was completed.

Soon after the elevator was installed, A. J. Willrodt, along with a committee from the Colorado County Historical Society, attended a Commissioner's Court meeting on June 9, 1977 to discuss the refurbishing of the courthouse (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 25:344). On October 30, 1978, Mr. Willrodt returned to the Commissioner's Court with a cost analysis for this project. At this time, though, the commissioners took no action (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 26:338). It was not until 1979 that the idea of a restoration was pursued. At this time the county, under Judge Lester Cranek, agreed to a covenant with the Texas Historical Commission over the historical integrity of the structure in order to secure money from the Texas Historical Commission for the restoration (Colorado County Commissioner's Court Minutes, 26:376). In 1980, the full restoration project of the courthouse was undertaken. A number of improvements were made at this time with Arthur J. Willrodt once again employed as architectural designer. He worked carefully with the Texas Historical Commission to achieve an acceptable restoration.

One of the most noticeable changes was the installation of central air-conditioning. Before this time, the courthouse had "window units hanging out all over the place" (Laura Ann Rau Interview, 10 June 1993). "There were thirty-three window units sticking out of it... it looked like a tenant apartment house in the Big Apple. Didn't look like a courthouse on the outside" (Lester Cranek Interview, 4 June 1993). Because of the poor appearance and the damage to the courthouse interior, the climate control needed updating. Of great help in this part of the construction was the discovery that the floor-to-ceiling joists were 2x18's. As Lester Cranek said, "that gave us 18 inches of work space between the ceiling and the floor, that a lot of the electrical work, a lot of the air ducts and this type of thing could be placed in there" (Lester Cranek Interview, 4 June 1993). This made it possible to hide most of these services, thereby saving the historical appearance of the structure's interior.

One major project of the restoration was the reinstallation of the glass dome in the District Courtroom. Judge Cranek "discovered this stack of glass" stored in the courthouse attic. He goes on to state that they were fortunate "that somebody didn't cart it off,"... so "when the time came for the commissioner's court to renovate the building, we were able to save some of those panels and then we had some other panels fabricated." He explained that there are "twelve panels in that dome. Eight were intact, four had to be refabricated. A stained glass group out of South Carolina came down and took samples and went back to South Carolina, and made the new panels for those,

and then they were replaced in the dome. You can't tell the new from the old. It was a beautiful job. (Lester Cranek Interview, 4 June 1993)." Unfortunately this company was unable to provide any clues as to the origin of the dome.

The woodwork was stripped as it "was just black."..."And it had all this old accumulation of varnish and dirt and everything on it from way back" (Laura Ann Rau Interview, 10 June 1993). It was then finished with, "a blue- grey stain (Lester Cranek Interview, 4 June 1993)." The stain appears to be green today.

The roof was repaired after the county was "able to find a firm in Chicago that handled very similar-type tile" (Lester Cranek Interview, 4 June 1993). The county purchased several more tiles than they needed in order to have enough to replace tiles damaged after storms or other events.

Since the restoration, the major project undertaken has been to replace the sidewalks around the courthouse and repair the fountain. The sidewalks were in very poor condition. "They were all big blocks of concrete and they were all popping up on the corners because of the tree roots" (Laura Ann Rau Interview, 10 June 1993). The sidewalks were paid for by citizens who sponsored the construction by purchasing a brick paver with their name on it to be placed in the sidewalk. The current sidewalks are not in the same configuration as the original 1890 sidewalks.

Recently a surprise occurred when the linoleum in the entrances began popping up. County Judge Strunk had someone come in to fix it and when they lifted up the floorcovering they suspected something other than concrete to be underneath. Judge Strunk relates that "we took some gasoline or paint thinner on a rag and cleaned that off and we saw that there were diferent colors underneath and then cleaning more off we determined that there was in fact marble underneath there and we decided that there was no way we were going to cover up that original flooring that was put in there and so instead of putting the linoleum [sic] back on, we cleaned it up" (H.O. Strunk Interview, 2 June 1993). The other fortunate discovery was that a number of extra pieces were found stacked behind the jail so if ever replacements are needed they will be available. Another change that Judge Strunk would like to see is "the copper dome that we have... all that paint be taken off and get back to that [original copper]" (H.O. Strunk Interview, 2 June 1993).

Reviews of the present condition of the courthouse have been overwhelmingly favorable from the community. Former County Judge Lester Cranek has stated that he thinks "it's looking excellent," and that he will "give the current judge credit for the new bricks on the walkway and some of those things that's being done there" (Lester Cranek Interview, 4 June 1993). Improvements will continue to be made as local citizens are very proud of their county histoical significance. In the community, the people "have finally realized that all this historic stuff is most important to the future of the town" (Laura Ann Rau Interview, 10 June 1993).

Together with the historic houses and neighborhoods, the Colorado County Courthouse adds to the overall image of the City of Columbus. Considering the strong committment to preservation in Colorado County, this landmark courthouse will continue as a symbol of the history of the community and will inspire future attention to local, state, and national landmarks.

4. Confederate Memorial Hall (Old Water Tower) 1883-present

A series of destructive fires, as well as periodic epidemics, led the citizens of Columbus to begin planning for a waterworks on May 17, 1883 (Colorado Citizen, May 24, 1883, 2). A contemporary account states that the brick tower would be composed of two 30' sections, with an 18' red cypress water tank atop the tower. A spiral staircase led up to the water tank. The bottom section of the tower was to be used as storage for a hose carriage. A pump-well and boiler house were located along the Colorado River, pumping filtered water to the tank. Pipes were to reach "the entire business portion of the city". The entire project was to cost \$22,114 (Colorado Citizen, June 28, 1883, 3). The contractor for the job was Captain J.T. Jones of Palestine, Texas. He began work on August 1, 1883 (Colorado Citizen, December 20, 1883, 3). The marble cornerstone was laid on August 29, 1883. It contained many interesting items, such as city documents, rare coins, and local newspapers (Colorado Citizen, September 6, 1883, 3). The completed waterworks were tested on December 12, 1883, with satisfactory results (Colorado Citizen, December 20, 1883, 3).

The building served this purpose until 1912, when a new water tower was built. Between 1883 and 1912, several water tanks of varying sizes were employed as increased water capacity was needed. The Commissioners' Court scheduled the demolition of the tower in 1912, but destruction proved so difficult that the work was called off after two weeks. Only about 2-1/2' of brick wall had been removed from the tower's top ("Old Tower To Be Monument", National Register File). The bottom of the tower was used for fire department storage until 1926 ("Columbus' Old Water Tower", National Register File).

On July 12, 1926, the local chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) petitioned the Commissioners' Court for the use of the tower for use as part of a "Memorial Hall, to be used as a meeting place" (Colorado County Commissioners' Court Minutes, 11:305). The UDC had plans for a 28' x 26', one-story addition connected to the tower; however, this addition was never built. On July 13, 1931, the UDC asked the county to renew its grant, with a new plan for an addition (Commissioners' Court Minutes, 12:130). The new addition was designed to occupy less ground space. It was to be wedge-shaped, extending 8' past the old tower, with an outside width of about 22'. The addition served as a kitchen and restroom. A roof of the addition was used as a bandstand, with access from a second-floor door. At the same time, a narrow, opaque-glass window was placed above the front entrance. In addition, double wooden doors were placed at the front entrance, and the dirt floor of the tower was tiled. The interior of the tower was partitioned into three sections. The first floor was the UDC meeting room, while the second floor was for use as a museum and library. The third floor apparently functioned as storage space. The addition and modifications were designed by L.M. Wirtz, a Houston architect who originally lived in Columbus. The contractor for the 1931 project was A. Evans, Sr., a local builder (Myrah Jane Draper Interview, 28 May 1993). The project cost about \$3,000 ("Tower To Be Monument", National Register File).

The entire building was renovated in the early 1990's by a Mr. Parkman, a contractor from Houston. He installed air conditioning and track lighting, and exposed the pine flooring on the second story (Myrah Jane Draper Interview, 28 May 1993). He also apparently removed the third floor and installed a dropped ceiling between the former third floor and the roof. The addition was turned into a museum display area, when the UDC stopped using the building as a meeting hall. Today, the entire building functions as the UDC's Confederate Memorial Museum, with displays on both the first and second floors of the original tower and addition.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The Colorado County Courthouse is a three-story modified Greek Cross plan. The original 1890 design with mansard roof, vertical emphasis, and clock tower was typical of Victorian public architecture. The district courtroom exhibits traditional English courtroom style with its plaintiff's box on the center of the room, is a departure from the typical Texas courtroom. The district courtroom is also noted for its ornate stained glass interior dome. Regional character is expressed by the use of six different panels of native flora designs on interior newel posts. The original roof and tower were destroyed in 1909 and were replaced by Classical Revival pediments, gabled tile roof, and a large copper dome. Additions to the building occurred in 1939 and 1951. The various remodelings, combined with the original design elements, make the Colorado County Courthouse a fine example of stylistic changes in public building design over the last 100 years.

2. Condition of fabric: The current condition of the Colorado County Courthouse is good, although some problems exist. Structurally, the building seems to be in sound condition. The building is kept in good repair, owing to its continuous use over the years. Problems include cracking and peeling plaster in the district courtroom, peeling paint on the copper dome, and general deterioration of the clock faces and other dome ornamentation.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Three story building with dome rising above roofline. The shape is basically rectangular with projecting centered entrances on the south, east, and west facades. The north elevation features a projecting center bay on axis with the main entrance on the south facade. This bay is flanked by covered porches, with an entrance from the east porch. On the south facade there are one-story additions on the southwest and southeast sides of the facade. These additions project beyond the original footprint of the structure.

2. Foundations: Stepped concrete footings.

3. Walls: The walls on all elevations are loadbearing brick with Belton rough-cut limestone trim. Quoins are found dividing each bay; they are of rough-cut limestone, except on the far edges of each facade where they are smooth-cut above the second floor window sill line. The brick pattern is running bond. The brick has been painted which has obscured its original texture and color. The original color is believed to have been buff, but the additions were done in a red brick and painted over to match the courthouse. A smooth limestone watertable is found eight brick courses above the ground line. Similar smooth belt courses mark the first and second floor division. Three rough-cut limestone courses run around the exterior of the building forming the sill line for the windows of all three floors. Another smooth-cut course runs through the spring line of the third-floor windows. Above the third floor window run a series of small bracket-like dentils that decoratively support the entablature. On the north and south elevations, the projecting

center bays are topped with pediments made of similar brick as the walls. Pediments are also located on the east and west elevations, spanning the entire width of the facade. These pediments each contain a stone engraved with the words, "A.D. 1909 COLORADO COUNTY COURT HOUSE". Above the engravings, a projecting scroll in the form of a ram's horn with stylized floral forms hanging from it. In the central section, there are vent openings as well as brickwork that projects slightly from the rest of the facade. The parapet at the top of the central section is made of copper. The words DEDICATA and JUSTITIAE are raised in the copper on each elevation. Each corner of the section is topped by a brick pedestal and cap.

4. Structural system, framing: The courthouse is of masonry load-bearing construction. The roof system is of heavy timber framing. The two central modified Pratt trusses designed to fit this building are original to the 1890 construction; two others were probably destroyed in 1909. Specifications show that first-floor joists were to be 2" x 14". The second-story joists were to be identical, except under the District Courtroom, where 3" x 14" joists were specified. Third-floor joists were to be 2-1/2" x 12". All ceiling joists were 2" x 10", doubled at points of roof bearings. All joists were 16" on center. Because access was restricted, it is presumed that the current joists correspond to these specifications.

5. Porches: There are two porches located on the first floor north facade of the building. The porches have flat roofs and are supported by one freestanding and two engaged slender cast-iron columns, sand-painted to resemble stone. The columns have acanthus leaves in the capitals and a square base with fluting above. The porch on the northeast side has a wheelchair-accessible entrance ramp.

6. Chimneys: Four of the original brick chimneys exist. On the south and north facades there are two chimneys which are close to the roof crest on the east and west side of each elevation. Though the caps are not original, they are placed on the original chimneys. Chimney caps are corbeled with galvanized vent caps rising out of them.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: The courthouse has four entrances located at the center of the east, west, and south facades and under the northeast porch of the north facade. Each entrance has unglazed, paneled, double wood doors which are stained and varnished. All entrances have a transom, but the transom on the north door has been painted on the interior and a plywood panel has been affixed on the exterior. The other transoms are glass divided into four lights by vertical mullions.

A panel with decorative trim is located between the transom and arch of each entrance. This decoration is similar to that above the segmental arch window openings.

b. Windows and shutters: The fenestration varies between floors as well as between bays. First-floor windows, in both the original building and the addition, are two-over-two-light, with double-hung sash. Segmental arches are above both the first and second floor openings. The first floor window arches are made of smooth limestone. There are five different window treatments throughout the building. The windows on the addition have simple stone surround. The double windows flanking the main entrance on the south facade and flanking the central bay on the north facade have a limestone segmental arch with keystone that carries down into a limestone abutment and plinth. The window on the central bay of the north facade is also a double window but above the two segmental arches is a large

arch and keystone that encompasses both windows. These two types of windows both have the same decorative panel as found above the doors. The double windows on the far east and west bays of the north facade also have segmental limestone arches, but the plinths are slender and the center member between windows is fluted. On the east and west facades there are single windows with segmental arches and the decorative panel above the window. The second and third floor windows on the north and south facades are identical. The windows extend the height of the two floors. The central arched window consists of a pair of arched one-over-one window above the beam sill. Below the beam sill are two stacked one-over-one windows. The center mullion is adorned with a attenuated half-round wood pilaster. Flanking the central window are similar windows with segmental arch instead of round arch.

Because of the subtle variations in windows and window treatment, and the difficulty in defining their location, it is necessary to refer to drawings and photographs.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: The roof is cross-gabled. A flat-roofed, parapeted pedestal rises in the center of the building to carry the dome structure. The east-west gables span the building, while the north-south gables project from the central plinth of the dome. The north-south ridge is slightly higher than the east-west ridge. The gable roofs are covered with red clay tiles while the flat roofs have built-up asphalt covering.

b. Cornice, eaves: The architrave of the entablature is supported by limestone brackets, some of which rest on the keystones of the third-floor window openings. Above the architrave at the east and west bays is a simple frieze with circular decorative panels inset into the frieze at regular intervals and also above the corner quoins. At the projecting central bays on the north and south elevations the frieze has a raised simplified Greek key design.. A simple cornice is supported by oversized dentils. These dentils are also found below the cornice line of the pediments on all four elevations. The eaves overhang slightly.

c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: The courthouse is topped with a dome which rests on a plinth rising from the center of the building. The dome is wood frame sheathed in sheet copper. Eight windows with eight-over-one wood sashes are located between pilasters on the drum of dome. Between the pilasters are panels decorated with applied copper swags of ribbons and flowers. The frieze above the pilasters is a modified Greek key design as described above. Circular clock faces are located on all four elevations, interrupting the cornice line. A thin finial rises above the round arches that frame each clock face. The copper ribs of the dome rise from the termination of the pilasters below to a copper cresting surround, and a lightning rod is located at the top of the dome.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

a. Basement: The basement consists of a double loaded corridor with restroom facilities and storage areas on one side and county offices, storage areas, and mechanical rooms on the other. At the east and west ends of the hallway are single flights of stairs. The major finish of the basement walls is painted plaster except

for gypsum board walls in the drivers license and auto registration office. The entire area has a vinyl tile floor over concrete slab.

b. First floor: The first floor is a double loaded corridor with a short entrance hall in the center of the south side of the building. Additions are located on the southeast and southwest corners of the first floor, projecting from the original structure. Another entrance hall leads from the north entrance, on the northeast porch, to the main hall. Offices are located on both sides of the hallway. The County Auditor, Commissioner's Room, and County Courtroom are located on the north side of the main hallway, and west of the north entry hallway. The County Courtroom is the largest room on the floor. The office of the County Treasurer and the elevator are in the northeast corner of the original building and in the southeast addition. The southeast quadrant of the first floor is occupied by the County Tax Assessor/Collector, while the County Clerk's Office and Vault occupy the southwest quadrant as well as the entire southwest addition.

c. Second floor: The east and west stairways each arrive at halls on the second floor. The Attorney's Office and Library are located on the north side of the west stairwell, with Judge's Chambers and two small rooms south of it. The Probation Officer Room and District Clerk Room are to the east of the east stairwell, with the District Clerk's Vault located to the south. The Vault is accessible through the District Clerk's Office. The center of the second floor is occupied by the grand double-height District Courtroom. This room spans the entire middle third of the second floor, and is represented in elevation by the projecting center bays on the north and south elevations.

d. Third floor: The third floor has east and west halls with placement identical to the second floor. Offices are located in the third-floor rooms. The middle portion of the third floor is the upper part of the District Courtroom. Shuttered interior windows open onto the District Courtroom from the halls.

e. Attic: The attic is unfinished and basically unpartitioned. It contains the stained-glass dome, which is centered over the District Courtroom.

2. Stairways: Two stairways at the east and west ends of the building connect the basement to the first floor. The west stairway continues to the second and third floor halls and to the attic. The east stairway connecting the first, second, and third floors is located where the north entry hall meets the main hall on the first floor. It appears that stairs to the pre-1939 unfinished basement were aligned according to this scheme, but were closed during a modification. The basement stairways are concrete steps with vinyl covering and with a wall-mounted railing. The two main wood stairways are more detailed, being open-string with a Z-shaped balustrade design. Square newel posts at the first floor are decorated with six different types of native floral carvings and a square finial. On the second and third floors newel posts are plain wood box columns with fluted panels on the lower half.

3. Flooring: The original floor of the courthouse is pine, but has been covered with carpet for many decades. The basement is vinyl tile over a concrete floor, though the original basement had a dirt floor. The entrance hall floors are black and white marble tiles. All but the north handicap entrance have had their floor-covering removed and have been cleaned.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: The walls are plaster on brick load-bearing walls. A wooden wainscot of alternating thin beaded and plain boards runs throughout the hallways. In

each room the wainscot differs slightly. In the County Courtroom the wainscot is paneled; in the District Courtroom it has wooden rectangular molding applied to it.

Ceilings have no moldings in the hallways, but segmental arches at the first floor stairwells have brackets with a plaster stylized flower motif. The cornice in the County Courtroom is a painted metal bead and cove. The ceiling of the District Courtroom has applied plaster ornament and molding and a central drum and stained glass dome.

5. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: The door trim varies from floor to floor and room to room based on the importance of the room. The trim on first floor doors is beaded with plinth and corner blocks and deep paneled jambs. The second and third floor door trim is a simple architrave, except for the main doors in the District Courtroom, which are flanked by Tuscan pilasters on pedestals, supporting a modified Ionic entablature.

Seven paneled double doors open into the County Courtroom and the District Courtroom. The less imposing doors, those to the offices and the smaller entrances to the courtrooms, are five paneled doors often with a transom. The exit doors all are five paneled double doors with transoms.

b. Windows: The windows on the first floor have trim similar to the doors on the first floor. The window trim in the District Courtroom is a typical, classical built-up profile. Shutters are applied to windows in the District Courtroom and stairways.

6. Decorative Features: The most notable decorative feature is the stained glass dome in the District Courtroom, which is believed to have been installed in 1909. It consists of numerous green swirled-glass panes with decorative floral and geometric patterns in yellow, black, and red tones. The panes are set in copper coming mounted in a steel armature. The base of the dome has a white Greek key design on a dark blue background. A chandelier of green glass, a recent addition, is suspended from the center of the dome. The ceiling is divided into four quadrants framing the central dome. An entablature forms the base of the dome where plaster lion's heads with teeth bared are located in the four cardinal directions. The same entablature treatment continues around the room.

The ornate judge's bench is of long leaf pine with curly pine panels and built-up molding.

7. Hardware: Most of the door hardware is believed to be original. Original transom hardware is evident at many doors.

8. Mechanical systems:

a. Heating and cooling: The courthouse was not originally equipped with a cooling system. Heat was originally provided employing eight original chimneys, four of which remain and provide flues for the current heating system. Records show that natural gas was piped in in 1933, perhaps indicating when gas heating was first used. In the 1980 restoration central cooling and heating was added.

b. Lighting: None of the current lighting system is original. Lighting was not addressed in the original specifications. Rooms and hallways are currently lighted

with both incandescent and fluorescent lighting. No evidence of gas lighting was found.

c. Plumbing: The building had running water from its construction, as water works were completed in 1883 with pipes throughout the downtown area. Original specifications show that "toilet rooms" were located on the second and third floors, with sewer pipes leading to the ground line and eventually to the river. Wash basins were also located on the first floor. The wash basins were on marble slabs, with 14" porcelain bowls and walnut cases. The toilet rooms had two "Demorests" water closets. Bedfordshire corner urinals were called for in the specifications, but they are not clear as to where they were placed. The building's plumbing has been modified several times.

9. Original furnishings: The benches in the hallways, the metal rails in the courtrooms, and the judges' benches are all original to the courthouse. They are all made of pine, the judges' benches being accented with curly pine. All of the wood had a dark varnish that was removed and replaced with a pigmented stain with a greenish tint and varnished.

D. Site:

1. Historic landscape design: An iron fence was already in place around the square when the courthouse was built. It was removed in November 1942. A sidewalk was installed in 1905 that radiated from and encircled the courthouse. It no longer exists; instead, recently-added brick paver sidewalks funded by the community run from the street sidewalks to the main entrances. A fountain was historically located on the south side of the courthouse; however, it was removed and rebuilt closer to the main entrance. The trees on the courthouse lawn have been planted at various times through the site's history. A number of the old walnut trees had grown up around the courthouse square, but many had died by 1925. To replace these, the county purchased ten pecan trees. These trees were planted along a hedge which ringed the courthouse at the time, paralleling the circular sidewalk. Eight of these pecan trees remain today. Magnolia trees were planted around the square in 1905 and 1907 and more were planted after 1919. Crepe myrtles were planted on the west side of the square in November 1919, and crepe myrtles now occur on all sides of the square.

2. Outbuildings: A wood-frame gazebo is on the southwest section of the courthouse lawn. It is the last remaining example of four gazebos placed on the courthouse lawn sometime before the 1909 remodeling. This gazebo had been moved to a local residence for some time, but was returned to the courthouse lawn in the 1978-1980 restoration. It lies over the site of an old water well. The gazebo is square in form, with a cross-gabled metal roof. The gable ends are sheathed with horizontal siding. A five-point star is in the center of each gable end. Lattice infill is on three sides of the gazebo, with the east side open. The entire gazebo is painted dark green.

The Water Tower consists of a round tower and a one-story, wedge-shaped addition on the east side of the tower. The tower is 23' in diameter, and 51' tall. The tower is constructed of local bricks in 5:1 common bond, while the addition is made of concrete modular units. The entire structure has been painted a cream color to match the nearby courthouse. A crenellated parapet rises above the tower's roof line. The crenellations are corbeled at their tops. Several courses of brickwork are corbeled below the crenellations, corresponding roughly to the hidden roof line. The tower originally had no parapet; instead, it was topped by various water tanks until 1912. The parapet was added in 1931.

The front entrance consists of two wooden doors, which swing open to expose an aluminum and glass storefront door installed in the recent renovation. The doors are topped by an arched transom, now boarded over. The door is surrounded by a thickly proportioned round arch made of stuccoed, painted brick. The arch's brickwork is corbeled at the springing line of the arch. The first-floor rear entrance is a single door, with transom and grillwork above. The second-floor rear entrance features a similar door, opening onto a balcony built onto the roof of the rear addition. The balcony is enclosed with a metal balustrade. A tall, narrow window with opaque glass is found above the front entrance. The window is divided vertically into two lights, with several horizontal divisions through the height of the window. The bottom portion of the window is a casement, and the window is round-arched at its top with corbeled brick voissours. Two fixed round windows with opaque glass are on the building, one on the second floor south elevation, and another on the first floor north elevation. Two casement windows are located on the rear east addition, flanking the rear entrance, but the windows are now obscured by dark plastic sheeting. The roof is built-up bituminous material and is essentially flat, with only a slight slope for drainage. The interior of the tower and the addition are open and unpartitioned. A metal spiral staircase rises between the first and second floors. Display cases line the walls of both floors as well as the addition, holding museum exhibits. The flooring of the first floor is synthetic tile, while that of the second floor is of finished pine boards. Wall finishes appear to be plaster applied to the brick walls, and painted.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Architectural Drawings:

1. Drawings of elevations, sections, plans, and site plan of the Colorado County Courthouse, 1978. From County Judge's Office, Colorado County Courthouse.

B. Early Views:

1. Photographs from the collection of the Nesbitt Memorial Library, Columbus, Texas. (see index to photographs)

C. Interviews:

1. Cranek, Lester. Former Colorado County Judge. Garwood, Texas. 4 June 1993.
2. Draper, Myrah Jane. Member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and longtime resident. Columbus, Texas. 28 May 1993.
3. Evans, Arthur "Bubba". Local contractor. Columbus, Texas. 4 June 1993.
4. Hancher, John. Former Colorado County Judge. Columbus, Texas. 1 June 1993.
5. Metzke, Raymond. Former resident of Columbus. New Braunfels, Texas. 3 June 1993.

6. Rau, Laura Ann. Former member of the Colorado County Historical Commission. Columbus, Texas. 10 June 1993.
7. Strunk, H.O. "Butch". County Judge of Colorado County. Columbus, Texas. 2 June 1993.

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PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

In accordance with the goals and standards of the Historic American Buildings Survey and the Winedale Historic Preservation Institute, architectural documentation of the Colorado County Courthouse at Columbus, Texas was accomplished in June 1993. The project was under the joint direction of the University of Texas School of Architecture Professor Wayne Bell, FAIA, Associate Professor Dan Leary, and Associate Professor Barry Moore, FAIA. Instructors were Kevin Milstead and Jim Arnold. Graduate architecture student team members were Ryadi Adityavarman, Christine Aharonian, LeAnna Biles, Eric Buck, Ronald Clements, Mary Danowski, Leah Kregor Dean, Marcella Devlin, Marcos A. Garza, David V. Guerrero, Charles John, Jeffrey G. May, Parisa Mazratian, Rick Mitchell, David Peronnet, Teresa Rivadeneira, Larry Schroeder, Karen Skaer, Alicia Snyder, Melissa A. Sternberg, and Jing Sun.

Student stipends were generously provided by gifts from Houston Endowment, Inc., Colorado County Judge H. O. Strunk and the Commissioners' Court, Mrs. Faith P. Bybee, the Heritage Society of Austin Philip Creer Scholarship, the Winedale Historical Center, the University of Houston College of Architecture, and The University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture.